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DELAWARE NURSING HOME RESIDENTS QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMISSION

Legislative Hall  
150 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd  
Tattnell Bldg – Room 112  
Dover, DE 19901

FINAL

Meeting January 9, 2018  
Minutes

Commission Member (s) Present: Lisa Furber, DNHRQAC Chair; Representative Kim Williams Yrene Waldron; Lt Gov Bethany Hall-Long; and Dr. Michela Coffaro, Psy D, Joanna Suder, Esquire (DOJ) also in attendance.

Commission Member (s) Absent: Amy Milligan; Karen Gallagher and Sue Shevlin.

Others Present: Margaret Bailey, Deborah Dickerson, RN, New Century Hospice; BJ DiDonato, New Century Hospice; Vincent Magne, New Century Hospice; Staci Marvel, DMMA; Chad Golden, Brandywine Nursing & Rehabilitation Center; Hooshang Shanehsaz, DPH Pharmacy Director; Randy Farmer, DHIN; and Jamie Rocke, DHIN.

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by Margaret Bailey.

2. Approval of the Minutes for the meeting of:

The meeting minutes draft of July 11, 2017, September 12, 2017 & November 14, 2017 were not voted upon due to lack of quorum.

3. Discussion of:

Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN)

Randy Farmer, COO, and Jamie Rocke, Director of Business Relationship Management provided commission members with updates regarding DHIN (last presentation Jan 2015).

DHIN became a self-sustaining non-profit organization in 2012.

Delaware Health Information Network's objective is to advance the creation of a statewide health information network that addresses the state's needs for timely, reliable and relevant health care information.

In 2007, DHIN "went live" – meaning it became the first operational statewide health information exchange in the nation. During the past ten years, DHIN has developed a consistent

track record for the safe and secure delivery of clinical results (lab and pathology), reports (both radiology and transcribed), and face sheets (hospital admission, discharge, and transfer data, including demographic and billing information).

Members of DHIN have access to:

- A searchable patient clinical history (including medications), available to authorized DHIN users on a “need-to-know” basis
- A web-based portal for those without an electronic health record (EHR), including auto-print functionality for paper charting
- A direct interface into the EHR with patient record-matching, for those providers with DHIN-certified EHRs

In addition DHIN and Vynca, provider of sustainable advance care planning solutions, have established a partnership to facilitate the capture, storage and sharing of end-of-life medical orders across the care continuum.

Vynca offers a comprehensive software solution to capture, store, and access medical orders for Scope of Treatment forms, (e.g. POLST, MOLST) which are vital in ensuring that patients’ end-of-life wishes are met. The organizations will collaborate to create an electronic registry that provides a single source of advance care planning documentation instantly accessible online to authorized healthcare providers in any care setting.

End-of-life medical orders allow people with serious, life-limiting illnesses to document their care preferences. However, the lack of infrastructure to support and sustain an electronic registry can make it difficult for providers to find and access patients’ documents, especially during emergencies.

- Vynca’s platform ensures that documentation reflects patient preferences, enabling best practices for advance care planning.
- Completed documents will be easily accessible by multiple providers across a variety of care settings.
- Platform will offer seamless provider workflow through electronic health record (EHR) integration; eliminating redundant data entry, improving accuracy, and saving time.

DHIN’s administrative office contact information: 107 Wolf Creek Blvd.Suite 2 Dover, DE 19901. Phone (302) 678-0220 or email [info@dhin.org](mailto:info@dhin.org).

### New Century Hospice

Debbie Dickerson, RN, Director of Operations and BJ DiDonato, Hospice Care Consultant, provided commission members with an overview of New Century Hospice. Their administrative office is located @ 665 S Carter Rd Suite 1 Smyrna, DE 19977. Phone number: 302.223.9779.

New Century Hospice is an affiliate of Curo Health Services and offers compassionate hospice care in 21 states. The organization began offering hospice service in Delaware – June 2017.

At Curo, they are committed to clinical excellence and integrity, insuring patients with the highest quality of care and comfort. Their philosophy includes an individualized course of treatment based on the patient's wishes, the family's needs and the complex array of medical, emotional and social issues which accompany a terminal diagnosis.

Service offerings include access to a network of community resources specifically arranged to provide comfort, reduce anxiety and allow quality time to be spent with the loved one.

Currently, New Century Hospice provides service in all three Delaware counties and is contracted with a majority of the long-term care facilities. New Century's Medical Director is Dr. A. Douglas Chervenak.

Hospice is a Medicare benefit which covers hospice care, medication, supplies and equipment related to diagnosis.

Eligibility is determined by life expectancy and individual's choice to focus on a palliative care approach; comfort or relief from pain and symptoms.

### Alzheimer's Assoc – Delaware Valley Chapter

Katie Macklin, Executive Director of the Delaware Valley Chapter provided commission members with an update regarding activities in Delaware. The association hosted an annual conference on November 15, 2017 in Dover, DE. The 2017 conference theme: Equipping Communities to Care.

Alzheimer's Association has a toll-free 24/7 helpline (800.272.3900) to provide information, emotional support, education and resources to family members and professionals.

Ms. Macklin shared that the Delaware Valley Chapter offers fee-for-service train-the-trainer model workshops for professionals.

In addition, Ms. Macklin added that the DE Valley Chapter offers free consumer educational programs addressing all issues related to Alzheimer's and dementia.

Finally, Alzheimer's Association initiatives advocate for legislative reform at state and federal levels to improve the quality of care and services for individuals with Alzheimer's and their families.

4. Old/New Business:

Legislation

The proposed DNHRQAC legislative changes were distributed to commission members for review.

DNHRQAC Memberships

Lisa Furber mentioned that she continues to communicate with Lydia Massey, Governor's Boards & Commissions, regarding DNHRQAC membership vacancies.

5. Public Comment:

6. Next meeting will be **Tuesday March 13, 2017 @ 9:30 AM**. The meeting location: DDDS Fox Run: 2540 Wrangle Hill Rd 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room "A" Bear, DE 19701.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:31 PM by Lisa Furber. .

Attachments: JFC FY 19 Hearing Schedule  
Alzheimer's Assoc pamphlets and other handouts  
DHIN presentation  
End-of-Life Medical Orders Registry article  
DNHRQAC proposed legislation (draft)  
2018 DNHRQAC meeting calendar